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BOOK REVIEWS

Bydrage tot de anthropologie der Menangkabau-Maleiers. Academisch Proefschrift ter verkryging van den Graad van Doctor in de Geneeskunde door
JOHANNES PIETER KLEIWEG DE ZWAAN. Amsterdam: Meulenhoff & Co., 1908.

It is only a few years ago that the study of physical anthropology in Holland met with as little popularity as it still meets in the United States. A change for the better, however, has taken place, a proof of which is, among other recent valuable publications, the *dissertatio inauguralis*, or thesis for the degree of M.D., at the University of Amsterdam by Mr Kleiweg de Zwaan, under the above title.

As a rule, the maiden effort of young medical men, and those who have entered other scientific fields, is limited in size and of little importance, but Dr de Zwaan's thesis is, in both respects, a remarkable exception. As to size, his book comprises 206 pages, large octavo, twelve long lists of measurements, a number of excellent illustrations, and a map. As to importance, Dr de Zwaan's work is not only one of the best contributions to Indonesian somatology yet presented, but up to the present time it embodies the results of the most valuable and elaborate study of the physical characteristics of the Sumatran Malays (Menangkabau). To review a work like de Zwaan's *Bydrage* in a few pages is next to impossible; the numerous minute technical descriptions and thousands of figures require close study of the work itself. The purport of this note is simply to call the attention of American somatologists to it. For those not very familiar with the Dutch language I would refer to a brief but appreciative review of the *Bydrage* by a well-known authority, Dr B. Hagen (*Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*, 41 Jahrg., Heft I, pp. 134-136), and to a lecture delivered before the Anthropological Society of Berlin by Dr de Zwaan himself (*Die anthropologischen Ergebnisse der Sumatra. Reise des Herrn A. Maass. Ibid.*, Heft II, pp. 167-180).

A few words, however, should be said here about the *Bydrage*, and how it originated. Kleiweg de Zwaan visited and crossed central Sumatra in 1907, in company of the German traveler Alfred Maass, his chief object being a somatological study of the native Malay population of this region, until now a desideratum. In this he succeeded exceedingly well. No fewer than 569 subjects were measured, all men, of whom 498 were

examined at Taluk on the upper Kwantan river. Of the Padang highlanders 58 men were measured; of Gunung Sahilan, 13. Thus de Zwaan's material is divided into three groups, of which two, Taluk and Gunung Sahilan, are nevertheless almost identical. His material therefore constitutes, comparatively speaking, a rather homogeneous group. The Padang highlanders are a little more mixed.

De Zwaan described and measured his subjects after the method of Professor von Luschan, while in the main it is similar to that of Professor Rudolf Martin. Besides his anthropometric work, Dr de Zwaan has made observations on congenital deformations, circumcision, frequency of the pulse, temperature of the body, eye-sight, muscular strength of the hand, and finger-prints. This last subject forms a most interesting treatise on comparative dactyloscopy. No fewer than five thousand finger-prints of Menangkabau Malays were taken, probably the largest series in existence of any Oriental ethnic group. Last, but not least, a number of photographs of types were taken, and 57 plaster casts of faces made.

As some of the numerous results of de Zwaan's careful measurements (thirty-two of each man) only the following need be mentioned: The average total height of body of the men is 157 cm.¹ The Padang mountaineers are a little taller, or rather less small, than the two other groups. The average cephalic index is 82.1, or 51.7 per cent. brachycephalic. Among these the Padang highlanders are a little less brachycephalic than the people of Taluk and Gunung Sahilan. The difference between the former and the latter is also evidenced by the nasal index, respectively 69.3, 75.3, and 74.3.

It seems curious that a summary of the contents and an index are both wanting in the *Bydrage*, as these would have facilitated study of the vast amount of material contained in the book. The sketch map, indicating the track followed in central Sumatra by Mr Maass and his Dutch companion, is a poor one. This defect however is partly remedied by the excellent map accompanying Mr Maass's lecture before the Anthropological Society of Berlin (*Durch Zentral Sumatra, Zeitschr. f. Ethn.*, 41 Jahrg., Heft. II, pp. 144-166).

An interesting appendix to de Zwaan's work embodies the result of researches into the color-sense and color-adjectiva of the natives by Mr Maass. Written in German, it bears the title "363 Farbenuntersuchungen bei den Malaaien Zentral-Sumatras." As Dr Hagen has already

¹ On page 178, *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*, loc. cit., it is said that the average height of body is 175.5 cm. This must be a misprint, as the tallest man of the whole series measured reached only 173 cm.

pointed out, *Farben-empfindungs-Untersuchungen* would have been more appropriate.

H. TEN KATE.

L'Europe Préhistorique. Principes d'Archéologie Préhistorique. By SOPHUS MÜLLER. *Translation from the Danish by EMMANUEL PHILIPOT.* Paris: J. Lemarrie, 1907. 212 pp., 3 pl., 161 figs.

The author believes civilization was transplanted into Europe from the Orient. Not much space is devoted to the paleolithic period. France is taken as a center and as the region that shows to best advantage the various stages of paleolithic culture. The reindeer epoch is lacking in Italy as one might expect, although specimens of the Solutrean and Magdalenian types are found there.

According to Müller there was in central Europe only one great period of cold after the warm climate of the Chellean epoch when he thinks man appeared for the first time. Penck and Rutot say there were two glacial epochs after the Chellean. The temperature dropped during the Solutrean and became very cold in the Magdalenian to grow milder again until the present time. He also believes the paleolithic period to be much shorter than the time ascribed to it by many geologists, notably Penck.

Only 6000 years is given for both the paleolithic and the neolithic period in Egypt, i. e. from 10,000 B.C. to 4000 B.C. For southern Europe the first epoch of the neolithic period is supposed to have begun about 5000 B.C., and the second epoch of the neolithic about 4000 B.C. These epochs began about 1000 years later, respectively, in Scandinavia.

Copper was employed first in the Orient. It was known in Egypt as early as the first dynasty, about 5000 B.C. But its use was restricted, and stone implements, particularly as cutting tools, were very generally employed until 3000 B.C. The Egyptian influence on the pre-Mycenæan civilization is noted and the characteristic stone burial cists of that epoch are described.

The beginning of the proto-Mycenæan epoch is placed at about 2000 B.C. With it appeared pottery of a new and much improved order. The paste was fine, the modeling excellent, and the ornaments in color. This epoch is known in Sicily, southern Italy, and Sardinia by the sepulture *a forno*, so-named because of its resemblance to an oven. Tombs of this type were communal and placed by preference in the flank of an escarpment. There also existed in these regions the dolmen proper. The two types of communal tomb are genetically related to the pre-